

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 19, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 21, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1537

Introduced by Assembly Member Wyland

February 21, 2003

An act to amend Section 51221.3 of the Education Code, relating to curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1537, as amended, Wyland. Education: curriculum.

Under existing law, the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, is required to include instruction in the social sciences, as prescribed.

Existing law requires that instruction to contain instruction on World War II and the American role in that war. Existing law expresses the Legislature's ~~intent to encourage~~ *encouragement* that the instruction include a component drawn from personal testimony of American soldiers who were involved in World War II and those men and women who contributed to the war effort on the homefront. Existing law specifies that ~~this the~~ instruction ~~shall~~ be carried out in a manner that does not result in any new duties or programs ~~being~~ imposed on school districts.

This bill would, *instead, authorize the inclusion of instruction on World War II and the American role in that war, and would make conforming changes. The bill would make a finding and declaration that the state-adopted academic content standards include instruction on the*

Korean and Vietnam Wars, and *would* encourage that the instruction include personal testimony of those involved in the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 *SECTION 1. Section 51221.3 of the Education Code is*
2 *amended to read:*
3 ~~51221.3. (a) (1) Instruction in the area of social sciences, as~~
4 51221.3. (a) Instruction in the area of social sciences, as
5 required pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 51220, ~~shall~~ *may*
6 include instruction on World War II and the American role in that
7 war. The Legislature encourages that this instruction include, but
8 not be limited to, a component drawn from personal testimony,
9 especially in the form of oral or video history, if available, of
10 American soldiers who were involved in World War II and those
11 men and women who contributed to the war effort on the
12 homefront. The oral histories used as part of the instruction
13 regarding World War II shall exemplify the personal sacrifice and
14 courage of the wide range of ordinary citizens who were called
15 upon to participate. The oral histories shall contain the views and
16 comments of their subjects regarding the reasons for American
17 participation in the war and the actions taken to end the war in the
18 Pacific. These oral histories shall also solicit comments from their
19 subjects regarding the aftermath of the war in Eastern Europe and
20 the former Soviet Union.
21 (b) ~~This section shall be carried out in a manner that does not~~
22 ~~result in any new duties or programs being imposed on the school~~
23 ~~district. In that regard, the Legislature finds and declares that this~~
24 ~~section does not mandate costs to local agencies or school districts~~
25 ~~and materials used to comply with this section shall be part of~~
26 ~~normal curriculum materials purchased by school districts in their~~
27 ~~normal course of business and purchasing cycles. The Legislature~~
28 ~~finds and declares that the state-adopted academic content~~
29 ~~standards, in effect on the effective date of the act that amended~~
30 ~~this section during the 2003-04 Regular Session, include~~
31 ~~instruction on the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The~~
32 ~~Legislature encourages that this instruction include a component~~

1 *drawn from personal testimony, especially in the form of oral or*
2 *video history, if available, of American soldiers who were involved*
3 *in those wars.*

4 ~~required pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 51220, shall~~
5 ~~include instruction on World War II and the American role in that~~
6 ~~war.~~

7 ~~(2) The Legislature finds and declares that the state adopted~~
8 ~~academic content standards, in effect on the effective date of the~~
9 ~~act that amended this section during the 2003-04 Regular Session,~~
10 ~~include instruction on the Korean War and the Vietnam War.~~

11 ~~(b) The Legislature encourages that the instruction described~~
12 ~~by subdivision (a) include, but not be limited to, a component~~
13 ~~drawn from personal testimony, especially in the form of oral or~~
14 ~~video history, if available, of American soldiers who were~~
15 ~~involved in those wars and the men and women who contributed~~
16 ~~to the war effort on the homefront. If oral histories used as part of~~
17 ~~the instruction regarding those wars, they shall exemplify the~~
18 ~~personal sacrifice and courage of the wide range of ordinary~~
19 ~~citizens who were called upon to participate and shall contain the~~
20 ~~views and comments of their subjects regarding the reasons for~~
21 ~~American participation in those wars and, with regard to World~~
22 ~~War II, the actions taken to end the war in the Pacific. These oral~~
23 ~~histories shall also solicit comments from their subjects regarding~~
24 ~~the aftermath of World War II in Eastern Europe and the former~~
25 ~~Soviet Union.~~

26 ~~(c) This section shall be carried out in a manner that does not~~
27 ~~result in any new duties or programs being imposed on the school~~
28 ~~district. In that regard, the Legislature finds and declares that this~~
29 ~~section does not mandate costs to local agencies or school districts~~
30 ~~and materials used to comply with this section shall be part of~~
31 ~~normal curriculum materials purchased by school districts in their~~
32 ~~normal course of business and purchasing cycles.~~